

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515

October 30, 2013

The Honorable Gina McCarthy  
Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Room 300, Ariel Rios Building  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator McCarthy:

Nearly eight years ago, Congress approved the Energy Policy Act of 2005, establishing the first Renewable Fuel Standard ("RFS"). In 2007, Congress significantly expanded the 2005 law when it passed the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, which increased the mandate to 36 billion gallons of biofuels by 2022. Unfortunately, despite the best intentions of the RFS, its premise and structure were based on many assumptions that no longer reflect the current market conditions, and the imposition of the 2014 volumes now threatens to cause economic and environmental harm. As Congress continues its bi-partisan work to address these concerns, we are writing to request that the EPA use its authority to adjust the 2014 RFS volumes.

As you are aware, the U.S. corn market has been increasingly volatile since the expansion of the RFS in 2007. This reflects the reality that more than 40 percent of the corn crop now goes into ethanol production, a dramatic rise since the first ethanol mandates were put into place in 2005. While well intentioned, the rigid nature of the federal law has not allowed it to change as new realities emerge in the market place. Ethanol now consumes more corn than animal agriculture, a fact directly attributable to the federal mandate. Corn prices are just one example of the economic harm caused by the RFS.

Due to the dramatic expansion of corn ethanol, volatile corn prices have led to the conversion of millions of acres of sensitive wetlands and grasslands into production. According to the EPA's analysis, the lifecycle emissions of corn ethanol in 2012 were higher than those of gasoline – and will be for years to come. Despite promised environmental benefits when the RFS was implemented, the National Academy of Sciences has noted that overall ethanol production and use lowers air and water quality.

Perhaps the newest challenge is the imposition of the statutory requirement of 18.15 billion gallons of renewable fuels in 2014, of which approximately 14.4 billion gallons will be made up by corn ethanol. In particular, the combination of rising ethanol mandates and declining gasoline demand has exacerbated the onset of the E10 blendwall- the point at which the gasoline supply is saturated with the maximum amount of ethanol that current vehicles, engines, and infrastructure can safely accommodate. The EPA explicitly acknowledged this challenge in its final rule implementing the 2013 volumes—"EPA does not currently foresee a scenario in which the market could consume enough ethanol sold in blends greater than E10, and/or produce sufficient volumes of non-ethanol biofuels to meet the volumes of total renewable fuel and advanced biofuel as required by statute for 2014."<sup>1</sup> We understand that the EPA signaled its intention to address these concerns in the 2014 rulemaking and commend the EPA's willingness to use the authority Congress granted to it when crafting the RFS.

While the blendwall is a pressing issue, the federal government can help avoid a dangerous economic situation by adjusting the normally rigid Renewable Fuel Standard mandate down to align with gasoline market conditions and realities. We therefore urge the EPA to consider a fair and meaningful nationwide adjustment to the ethanol mandate in the Renewable Fuel Standard. Prompt action by the EPA can help to ease short supply concerns, prevent engine damage, save jobs across many U.S. industries, and keep families fed. We strongly urge you to exercise your authority and take the necessary steps to protect American consumers and the economy. Thank you for your immediate consideration of this request.

Sincerely,




Bob Goodlatte  
Member of Congress



Jim Costa  
Member of Congress




Steve Womack  
Member of Congress

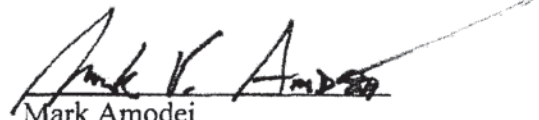



Peter Welch  
Member of Congress

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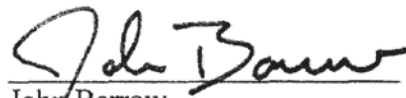
<sup>1</sup> Regulation of Fuels and Fuel Additives: 2013 Renewable Fuel Standards, 78 Fed. Reg. 49,794, 49,823 (Aug. 15, 2013) (to be codified at 40 C.F.R. pt. 80).

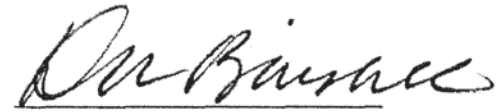
  
Robert Aderholt  
Member of Congress

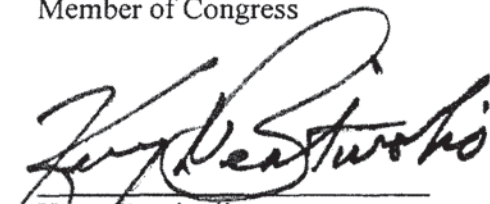
  
Mark Amodei  
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Robert Andrews  
Member of Congress

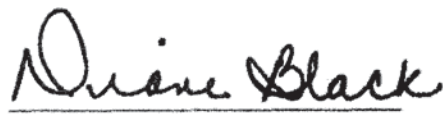
  
Lou Barletta  
Member of Congress

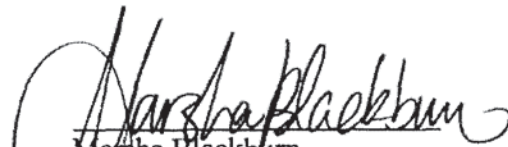
  
John Barrow  
Member of Congress

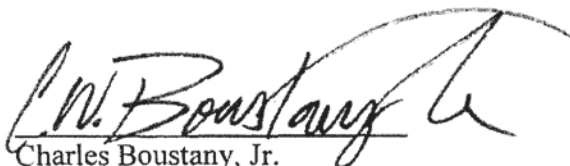
  
Dan Benishek  
Member of Congress


  
Kerry Bentivolio  
Member of Congress

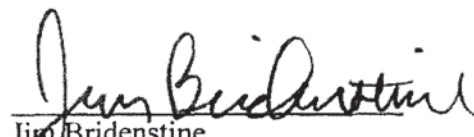
  
Gus Bilirakis  
Member of Congress

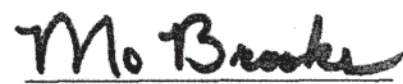
  
Diane Black  
Member of Congress

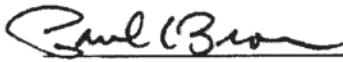
  
Marsha Blackburn  
Member of Congress

  
Charles Boustany, Jr.  
Member of Congress

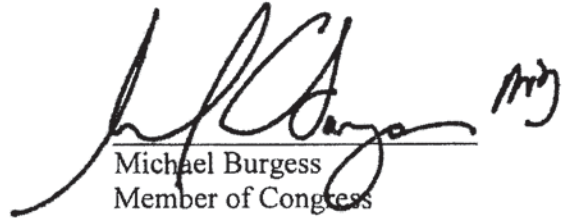
  
Kevin Brady  
Member of Congress

  
Jim Bridenstine  
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G.K. Butterfield  
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Ken Calvert  
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John Campbell  
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Shelley Moore Capito  
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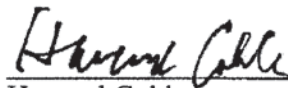
John Carter  
Member of Congress



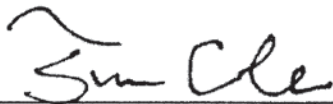
Steve Chabot  
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Jason Chaffetz  
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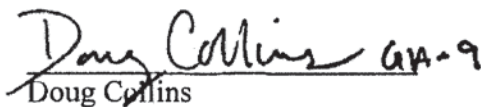
Howard Coble  
Member of Congress



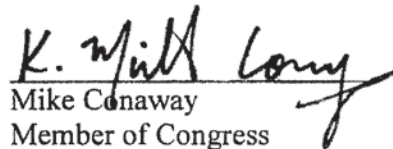
Tom Cole  
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Chris Collins  
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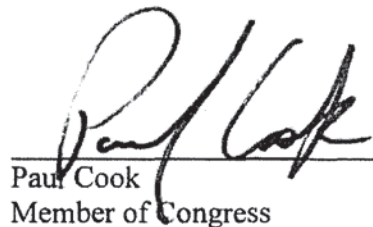
Doug Collins  
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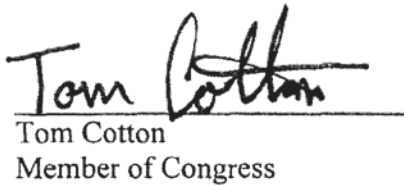


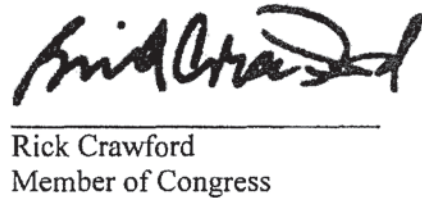
Mike Conaway  
Member of Congress

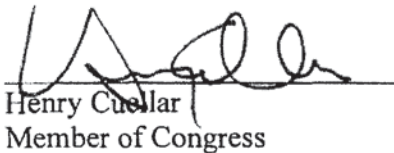


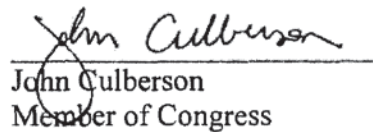
  
Gerry Connolly  
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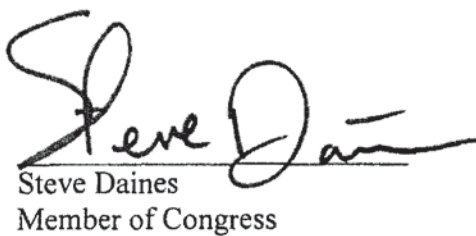
  
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Tom Cotton  
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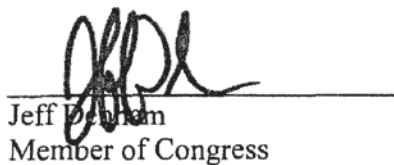
  
Rick Crawford  
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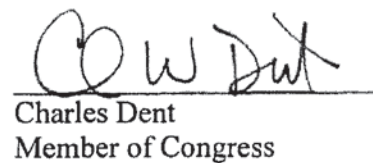
  
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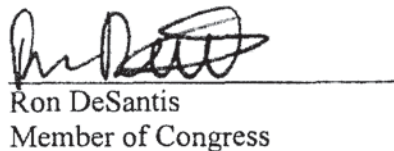
  
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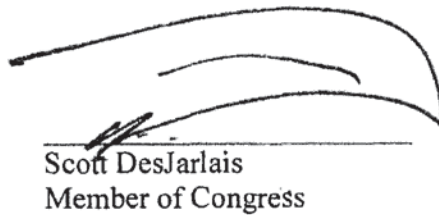
  
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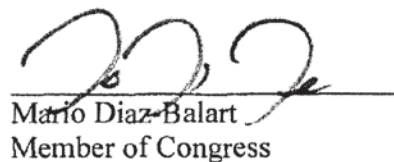
  
Peter DeFazio  
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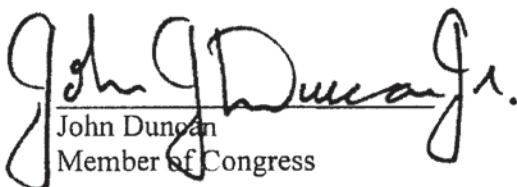
  
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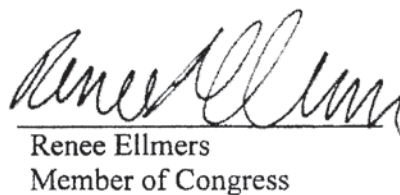
  
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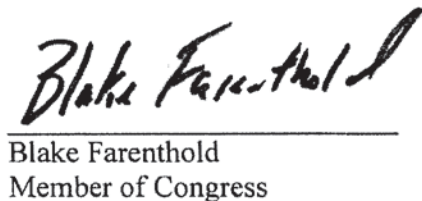
  
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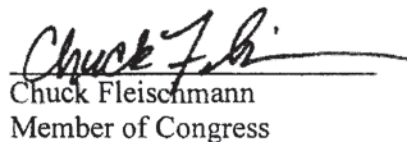
  
Mario Diaz-Balart  
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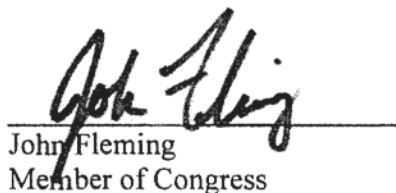
  
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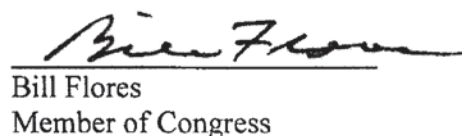
  
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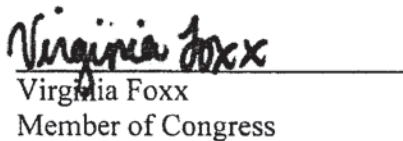
  
Renee Ellmers  
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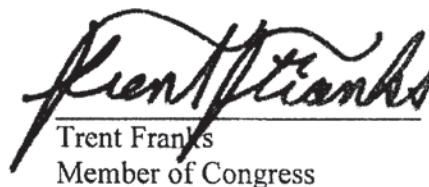
  
Blake Farenthold  
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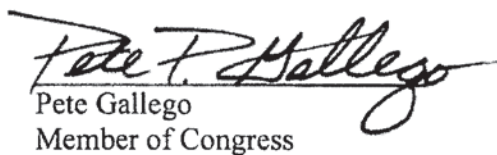
  
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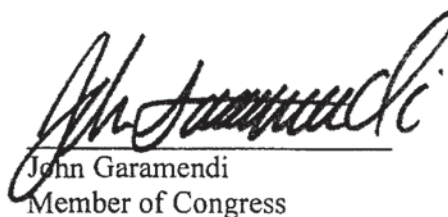
  
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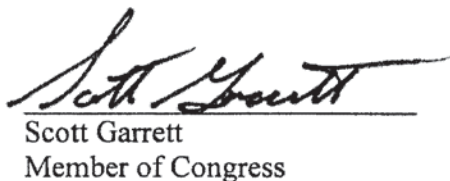
  
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Virginia Foxx  
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Trent Franks  
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Pete Gallego  
Member of Congress

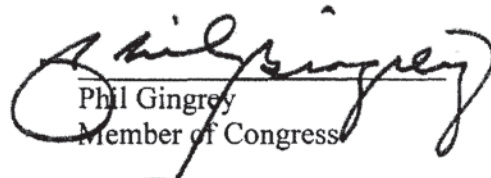
  
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Scott Garrett  
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Jim Gerlach  
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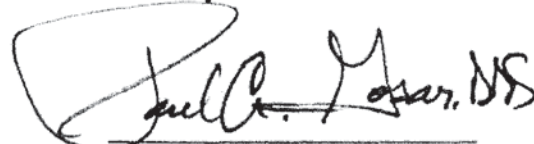
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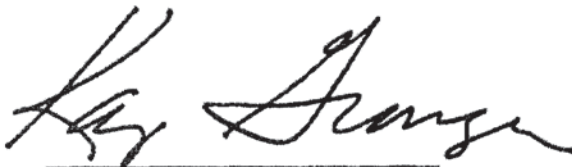
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Louie Gohmert  
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Paul Gosar  
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Kay Granger  
Member of Congress



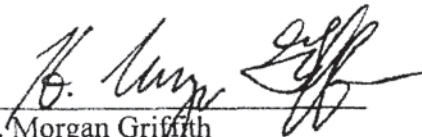
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Gene Green  
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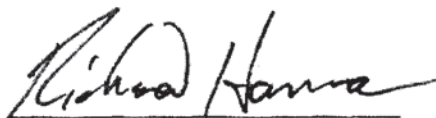
Tim Griffin  
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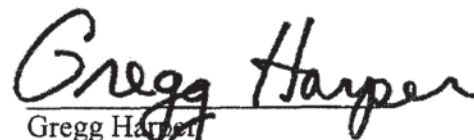
H. Morgan Griffith  
Member of Congress



Ralph Hall  
Member of Congress



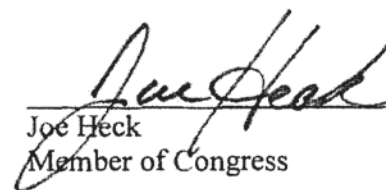
Richard Hanna  
Member of Congress



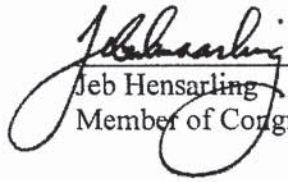
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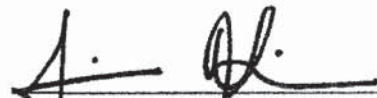


Andy Harris  
Member of Congress




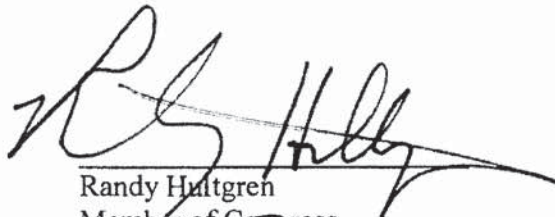
Joe Heck  
Member of Congress

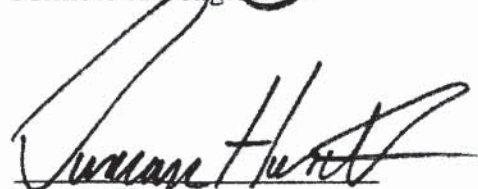
  
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Member of Congress

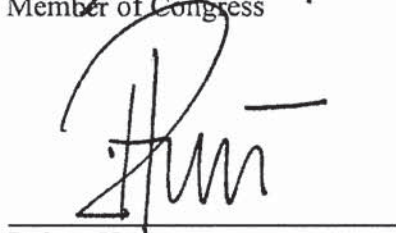
  
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Rubén Hinojosa  
Member of Congress

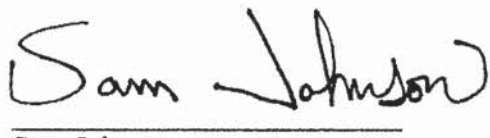
  
George Holding  
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Randy Hultgren  
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Duncan Hunter  
Member of Congress

  
Robert Hurt  
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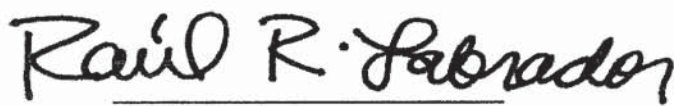
  
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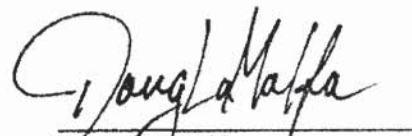
  
Sam Johnson  
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Walter Jones  
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Jack Kingston  
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Ann McLane Kuster  
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Raul Labrador  
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Doug LaMalfa  
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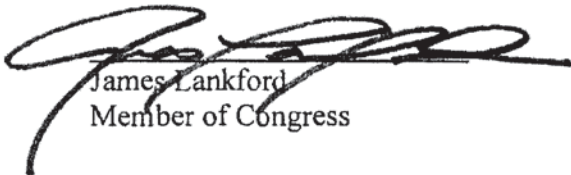




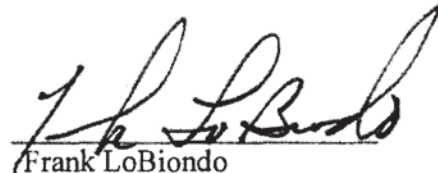
Doug Lamborn  
Member of Congress



Leonard Lance  
Member of Congress



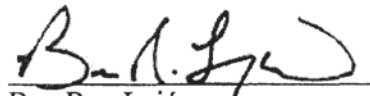
James Lankford  
Member of Congress



Frank LoBiondo  
Member of Congress



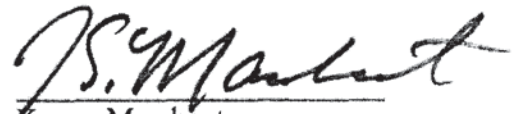
Billy Long  
Member of Congress



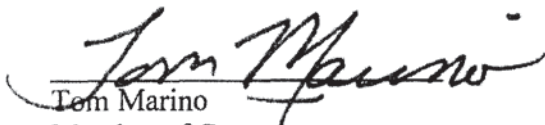
Ben Ray Luján  
Member of Congress



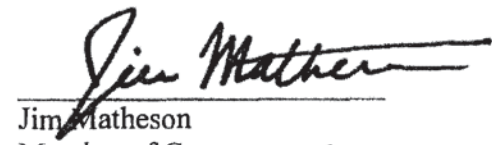
Cynthia Lummis  
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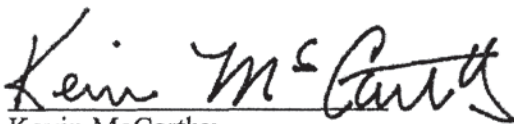
Kenny Marchant  
Member of Congress



Tom Marino  
Member of Congress



Jim Matheson  
Member of Congress



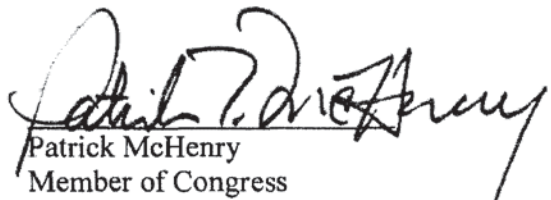
Kevin McCarthy  
Member of Congress



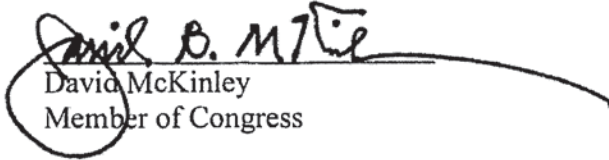
Michael McCaul  
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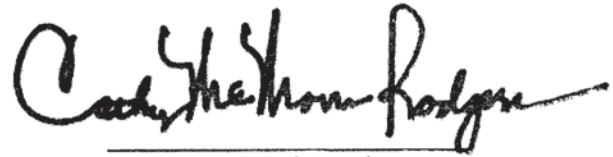


Tom McClintock  
Member of Congress

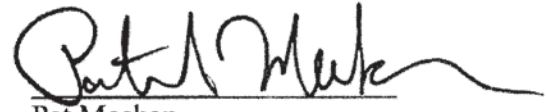


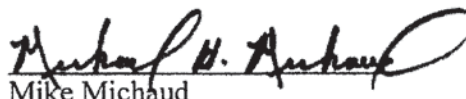
Patrick McHenry  
Member of Congress

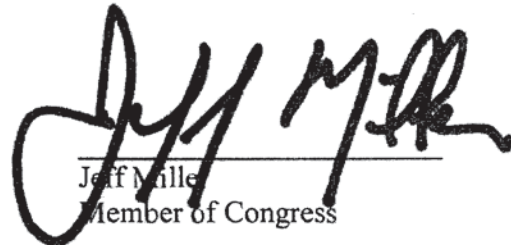
  
David McKinley  
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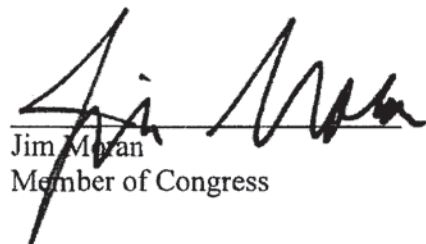
  
Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
Member of Congress


  
Mark Meadows  
Member of Congress

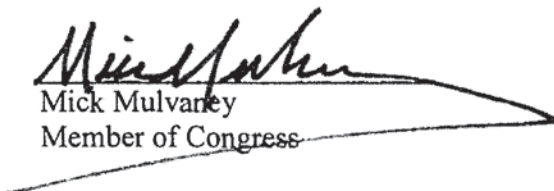
  
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Member of Congress

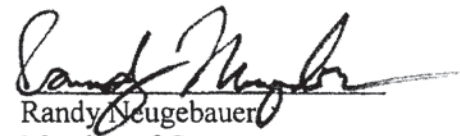
  
Mike Michaud  
Member of Congress

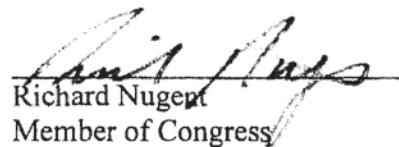
  
Jeff Miller  
Member of Congress

  
Jim Moran  
Member of Congress

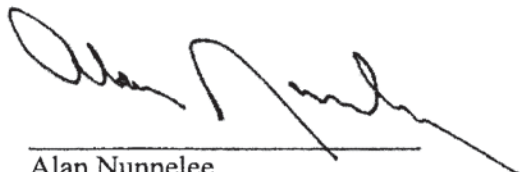
  
Markwayne Mullin  
Member of Congress

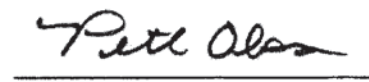
  
Mick Mulvaney  
Member of Congress

  
Randy Neugebauer  
Member of Congress

  
Richard Nugent  
Member of Congress

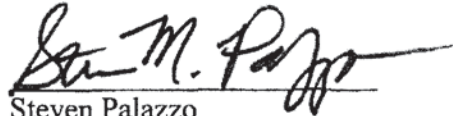
  
Devin Nunes  
Member of Congress

  
Alan Nunnelee  
Member of Congress

  
Pete Olson  
Member of Congress



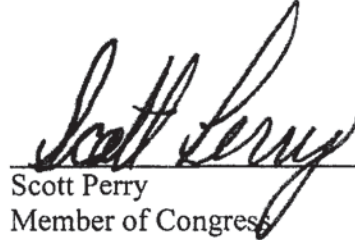
Bill Owens  
Member of Congress



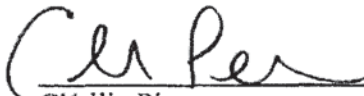
Steven Palazzo  
Member of Congress



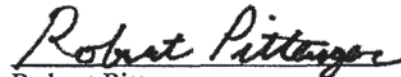
Steve Pearce  
Member of Congress



Scott Perry  
Member of Congress



Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress



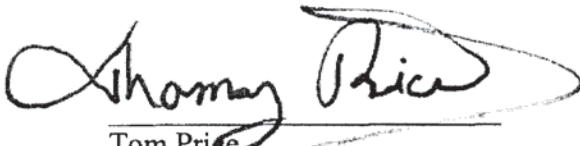
Robert Pittenger  
Member of Congress



Joe Pitts  
Member of Congress



Ted Poe  
Member of Congress




Tom Price  
Member of Congress



Trey Radel  
Member of Congress



Tom Reed  
Member of Congress




Tom Rice  
Member of Congress

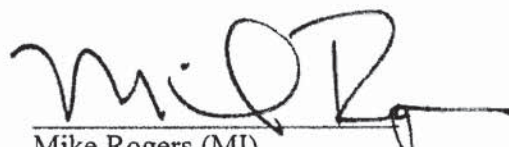



Cedric Richmond  
Member of Congress

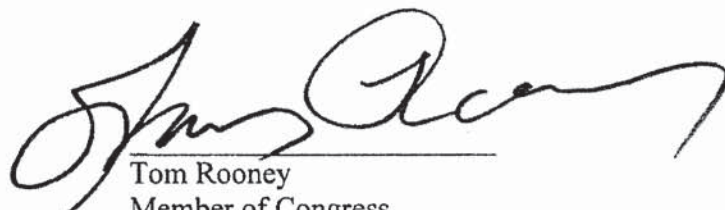


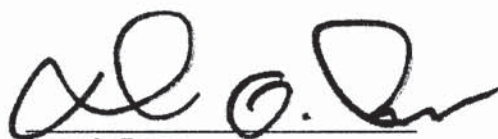
Scott Rigell  
Member of Congress

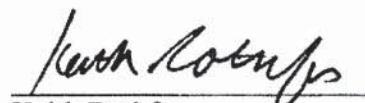
  
Phil Roe  
Member of Congress

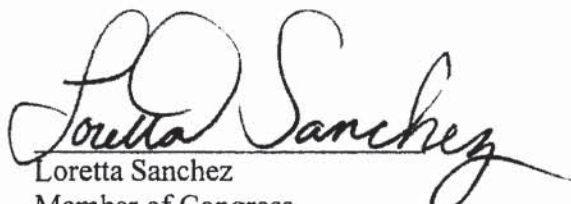
  
Mike Rogers (MI)  
Member of Congress

  
Dana Rohrabacher  
Member of Congress

  
Tom Rooney  
Member of Congress

  
Dennis Ross  
Member of Congress

  
Keith Rothfus  
Member of Congress

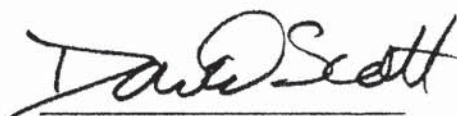
  
Loretta Sanchez  
Member of Congress

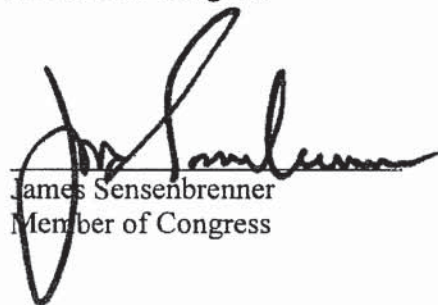
  
Kurt Schrader  
Member of Congress

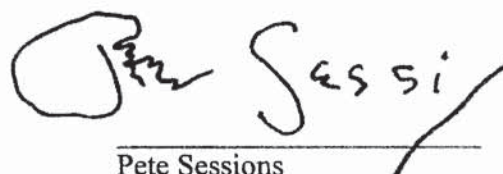
  
David Schweikert  
Member of Congress

  
Austin Scott  
Member of Congress


  
Bobby Scott  
Member of Congress

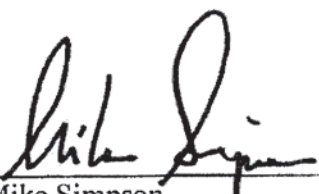
  
David Scott  
Member of Congress

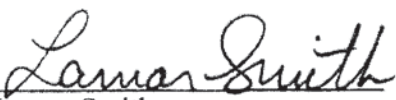
  
James Sensenbrenner  
Member of Congress

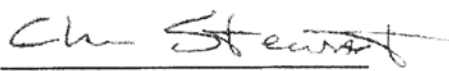
  
Pete Sessions  
Member of Congress

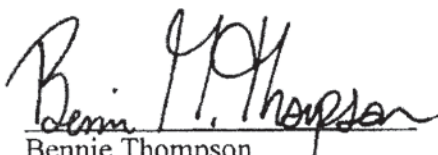


  
Bill Shuster  
Member of Congress

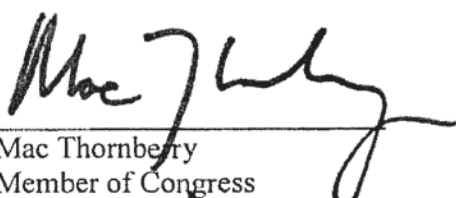
  
Mike Simpson  
Member of Congress


  
Lamar Smith  
Member of Congress

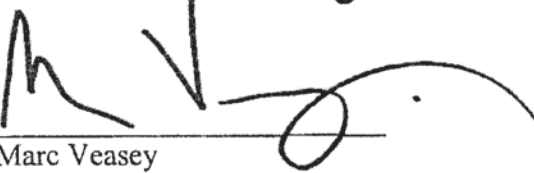
  
Chris Stewart  
Member of Congress

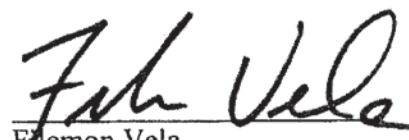
  
Bennie Thompson  
Member of Congress


  
Glenn Thompson  
Member of Congress


  
Mac Thornberry  
Member of Congress

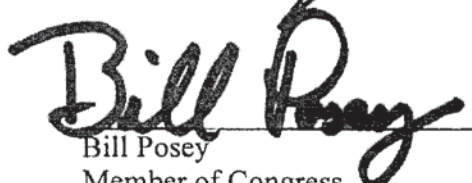
  
David Valadao  
Member of Congress

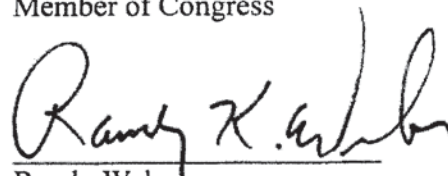
  
Marc Veasey  
Member of Congress

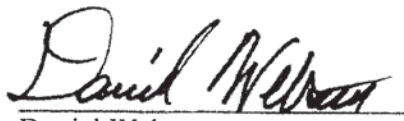
  
Filmon Vela  
Member of Congress

  
Tim Walberg  
Member of Congress

  
Greg Walden  
Member of Congress

  
Bill Posey  
Member of Congress

  
Randy Weber  
Member of Congress



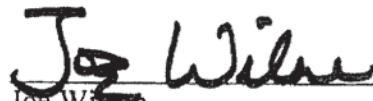
Daniel Webster  
Member of Congress



Lynn Westmoreland  
Member of Congress



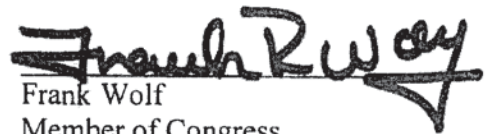
Roger Williams  
Member of Congress



Joe Wilson  
Member of Congress



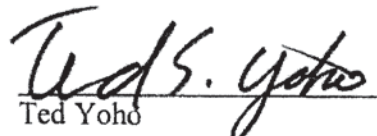
Robert Wittman  
Member of Congress




Frank Wolf  
Member of Congress



Rob Woodall  
Member of Congress



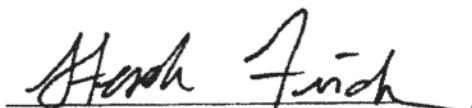
Ted Yoho  
Member of Congress



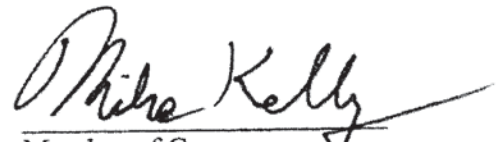
Don Young  
Member of Congress



Rodney P. Frelinghuysen  
Member of Congress



Stephen Fincher  
Member of Congress



Member of Congress



Member of Congress

Member of Congress

## Mims, Kathy

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**From:** Mackay, Cheryl  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 31, 2013 11:33 AM  
**To:** Mims, Kathy; Eades, Cassaundra  
**Subject:** FW: RFS Letter  
**Attachments:** RFSLetterToAdminMcCarthy.pdf

Please save in CMS and control to OAR/OTAQ. Here is the list of signatories to the letter. Thanks!

Aderholt, Robert B. (R-AL, 4th)  
Amodei, Mark (R-NV, 2nd)  
Andrews, Robert E. (D-NJ, 1st)  
Barletta, Lou (R-PA, 11th)  
Barrow, John (D-GA, 12th)  
Benishek, Dan (R-MI, 1st)  
Bentivolio, Kerry (R-MI, 11th)  
Bilirakis, Gus (R-FL, 12th)  
Black, Diane (R-TN, 6th)  
Blackburn, Marsha W. (R-TN, 7th)  
Boustany, Charles W. (R-LA, 3rd)  
Brady, Kevin (R-TX, 8th)  
Bridenstine, Jim (R-OK, 1st)  
Brooks, Mo (R-AL, 5th)  
Broun, Paul (R-GA, 10th)  
Burgess, Michael C. (R-TX, 26th)  
Butterfield, G. K. (D-NC, 1st)  
Calvert, Ken (R-CA, 42nd)  
Campbell, John (R-CA, 45th)  
Capito, Shelley Moore (R-WV, 2nd)  
Carter, John R. (R-TX, 31st)  
Chabot, Steve (R-OH, 1st)  
Chaffetz, Jason (R-UT, 3rd)  
Coble, Howard (R-NC, 6th)  
Cole, Tom (R-OK, 4th)  
Collins, Chris (R-NY, 27th)  
Collins, Doug (R-GA, 9th)  
Conaway, Mike (R-TX, 11th)  
Connolly, Gerry (D-VA, 11th)  
Cook, Paul J. (R-CA, 8th)  
Costa, Jim (D-CA, 16th)  
Cotton, Tom (R-AR, 4th)  
Crawford, Rick (R-AR, 1st)  
Cuellar, Henry (D-TX, 28th)  
Culberson, John (R-TX, 7th)  
Daines, Steve (R-MT, At Large)  
DeFazio, Peter A. (D-OR, 4th)  
Denham, Jeff (R-CA, 10th)  
Dent, Charles (R-PA, 15th)  
DeSantis, Ron (R-FL, 6th)  
DesJarlais, Scott (R-TN, 4th)  
Diaz-Balart, Mario (R-FL, 25th)

Duncan, Jeff (R-SC, 3rd)  
Duncan, John J. Jr. (R-TN, 2nd)  
Ellmers, Renee (R-NC, 2nd)  
Farenthold, Blake (R-TX, 27th)  
Fincher, Stephen (R-TN, 8th)  
Fleischmann, Chuck (R-TN, 3rd)  
Fleming, John (R-LA, 4th)  
Flores, Bill (R-TX, 17th)  
Foxx, Virginia (R-NC, 5th)  
Franks, Trent (R-AZ, 8th)  
Frelinghuysen, Rodney (R-NJ, 11th)  
Gallego, Pete (D-TX, 23rd)  
Garamendi, John (D-CA, 3rd)  
Garrett, Scott (R-NJ, 5th)  
Gerlach, Jim (R-PA, 6th)  
Gibson, Chris (R-NY, 19th)  
Gingrey, Phil (R-GA, 11th)  
Gohmert, Louie (R-TX, 1st)  
Goodlatte, Bob (R-VA, 6th)  
Gosar, Paul (R-AZ, 4th)  
Granger, Kay (R-TX, 12th)  
Graves, Tom (R-GA, 14th)  
Green, Gene (D-TX, 29th)  
Griffin, Tim (R-AR, 2nd)  
Griffith, Morgan (R-VA, 9th)  
Hall, Ralph M. (R-TX, 4th)  
Hanna, Richard L. (R-NY, 22nd)  
Harper, Gregg (R-MS, 3rd)  
Harris, Andy (R-MD, 1st)  
Heck, Joe (R-NV, 3rd)  
Hensarling, Jeb (R-TX, 5th)  
Himes, Jim (D-CT, 4th)  
Hinojosa, Rubén (D-TX, 15th)  
Holding, George E. (R-NC, 13th)  
Hultgren, Randy (R-IL, 14th)  
Hunter, Duncan D. (R-CA, 50th)  
Hurt, Robert (R-VA, 5th)  
Issa, Darrell (R-CA, 49th)  
Johnson, Sam (R-TX, 3rd)  
Jones, Walter B. (R-NC, 3rd)  
Kelly, Mike (R-PA, 3rd)  
Kingston, Jack (R-GA, 1st)  
Kuster, Ann McLane (D-NH, 2nd)  
Labrador, Raúl (R-ID, 1st)  
LaMalfa, Doug (R-CA, 1st)  
Lamborn, Doug (R-CO, 5th)  
Lance, Leonard (R-NJ, 7th)  
Lankford, James (R-OK, 5th)  
LoBiondo, Frank A. (R-NJ, 2nd)  
Long, Billy (R-MO, 7th)  
Luján, Ben R. (D-NM, 3rd)  
Lummis, Cynthia M. (R-WY, At Large)



Marchant, Kenny E. (R-TX, 24th)  
Marino, Tom (R-PA, 10th)  
Matheson, Jim (D-UT, 4th)  
McCarthy, Kevin (R-CA, 23rd)  
McCaul, Michael (R-TX, 10th)  
McClintock, Tom (R-CA, 4th)  
McHenry, Patrick (R-NC, 10th)  
McKinley, David B. (R-WV, 1st)  
McMorris Rodgers, Cathy (R-WA, 5th)  
Meadows, Mark (R-NC, 11th)  
Meehan, Pat (R-PA, 7th)  
Michaud, Mike (D-ME, 2nd)  
Miller, Jeff (R-FL, 1st)  
Moran, Jim (D-VA, 8th)  
Mullin, Markwayne (R-OK, 2nd)  
Mulvaney, Mick (R-SC, 5th)  
Neugebauer, Randy (R-TX, 19th)  
Nugent, Richard (R-FL, 11th)  
Nunes, Devin (R-CA, 22nd)  
Nunnelee, Alan (R-MS, 1st)  
Olson, Pete (R-TX, 22nd)  
Owens, Bill (D-NY, 21st)  
Palazzo, Steven (R-MS, 4th)  
Pearce, Steve (R-NM, 2nd)  
Perry, Scott (R-PA, 4th)  
Pingree, Chellie M. (D-ME, 1st)  
Pittenger, Robert (R-NC, 9th)  
Pitts, Joe (R-PA, 16th)  
Poe, Ted (R-TX, 2nd)  
Posey, Bill (R-FL, 8th)  
Price, Tom (R-GA, 6th)  
Radel, Trey (R-FL, 19th)  
Reed, Tom (R-NY, 23rd)  
Rice, Tom (R-SC, 7th)  
Richmond, Cedric L. (D-LA, 2nd)  
Rigell, Scott (R-VA, 2nd)  
Roe, Phil (R-TN, 1st)  
Rogers, Mike (R-MI, 8th)  
Rohrabacher, Dana (R-CA, 48th)  
Rooney, Tom (R-FL, 17th)  
Ross, Dennis A. (R-FL, 15th)  
Rothfus, Keith J. (R-PA, 12th)  
Sanchez, Loretta (D-CA, 46th)  
Schrader, Kurt (D-OR, 5th)  
Schweikert, David (R-AZ, 6th)  
Scott, Austin (R-GA, 8th)  
Scott, Bobby (D-VA, 3rd)  
Scott, David (D-GA, 13th)  
Sensenbrenner, Jim Jr. (R-WI, 5th)  
Sessions, Pete (R-TX, 32nd)  
Shuster, Bill (R-PA, 9th)  
Simpson, Mike (R-ID, 2nd)

Smith, Lamar S. (R-TX, 21st)  
Stewart, Chris (R-UT, 2nd)  
Thompson, Bennie G. (D-MS, 2nd)  
Thompson, Glenn W. (R-PA, 5th)  
Thornberry, Mac (R-TX, 13th)  
Valadao, David G. (R-CA, 21st)  
Veasey, Marc (D-TX, 33rd)  
Vela, Filemon (D-TX, 34th)  
Walberg, Tim (R-MI, 7th)  
Walden, Greg (R-OR, 2nd)  
Weber, Randy (R-TX, 14th)  
Webster, Daniel A. (R-FL, 10th)  
Welch, Peter (D-VT, At Large)  
Westmoreland, Lynn A. (R-GA, 3rd)  
Williams, Roger (R-TX, 25th)  
Wilson, Joe (R-SC, 2nd)  
Wittman, Rob (R-VA, 1st)  
Wolf, Frank R. (R-VA, 10th)  
Womack, Steve (R-AR, 3rd)  
Woodall, Rob (R-GA, 7th)  
Yoho, Ted (R-FL, 3rd)  
Young, Don (R-AK, At Large)

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**From:** Vaught, Laura  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 31, 2013 10:11 AM  
**To:** Mackay, Cheryl  
**Cc:** Lewis, Josh; Distefano, Nichole  
**Subject:** Fw: RFS Letter

Can you get this into system? Thanks! Sending separately a handy list she sent of signatories.

---

**From:** Meadows, Carrie <[Carrie.Meadows@mail.house.gov](mailto:Carrie.Meadows@mail.house.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 31, 2013 9:53:26 AM  
**To:** Vaught, Laura  
**Subject:** RFS Letter

Hi Laura,

I hope you are well! We faxed this, but I wanted to send to you too so you had a copy. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Carrie

Carrie Meadows  
Legislative Director  
Office of Congressman Bob Goodlatte  
(202) 225-5431 Phone  
(202) 225-9681 Fax